

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

3927 Lennane Drive, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95834
(916) 419-2500

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: John Carr
(916) 419-2525

October 5, 2005
PR #05-110

THREE ARRESTED AS ABC TARGETS ADULTS WHO FURNISH ALCOHOL TO MINORS

(Reedley, CA) Investigators from the Fresno District Office of the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) and Officers from the Reedley Police Department arrested three suspects on September 30, 2005 for furnishing alcoholic beverages to minors.

The Investigators conducted a program called a Decoy Shoulder Tap Operation which targets adults who purchase alcohol for people under the age of 21. Under the program, a minor under the direct supervision of a peace officer will stand outside a liquor or convenience store and ask patrons to buy them alcohol. The minor indicates in some way he or she is underage and cannot purchase the alcohol. During the Friday night operation, contact was made with 7 different individuals and three of those individuals purchased alcohol for the minor decoy.

Investigators arrested the three individuals and cited them for furnishing alcohol to the minor. The penalty for furnishing alcohol to a minor is a minimum \$1,000 fine and 24 hours of community service.

The program is intended to reduce the availability of alcohol to minors who have a higher rate of drunken driving crashes than adults in general. The combination of alcohol and youth also tends to increase criminal conduct among the young. According to the American Medical Association, underage drinking can increase chances of risky sexual behavior, teen pregnancy, juvenile delinquency, compromise health, and result in unintentional injury and death.

For more information on the operation, contact the ABC District Administrator Christine Weldon at (559) 225-6334.

ABC is a Department of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, which is under the direction of Secretary Sunne Wright-McPeak, a member of the Governor's Cabinet.